

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 LOC-01 L-03 COME-00 DRC-01 RSC-01

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P 290653Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3092

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FOR EB/CBA/BP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, KS

SUBJ: COPYRIGHT AND BOOK PIRACY

REF: (A) STATE 62591 (B) SEOUL A-234, JULY 18, 1973 (C) SEOUL

A-422, OCT. 15, 1970

1. CULTURE BUREAU DIRECTOR KIM YUNG KWON TELEPHONED ASST COMATT MARCH 5 TO SEEK EXPLANATION OF MARCH 4 NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON BOOK PIRACY THAT HAD BEEN QUOTED IN KOREAN PRESS. KIM EXPRESSED PAIN THAT ARTICLE SPOKE OF "PROTESTS" BY AMERICAN EMBASSY REGARDING A BOOK PIRACY ISSUE. HE ACCEPTED WITH GRACE EXPLANATION THAT HALLORAN WAS REFERRING IN ARTICLE TO EVENTS OF SOME TIME PAST (SEE REF. (B)). KIM THEN STATED THAT MINISTER OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION (MCUI) YOON CHU YUNG HAD APPROVED ARRANGEMENT FOR COPYRIGHT OF U.S. BOOKS REPUBLISHED HERE AND AGREED TO EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ON SUBJECT. WE ARE POUCHING COPY OF MARCH 11 TO KIM SUMMARIZING TELCON AND SOLICITING REPLY FROM MCUI.

2. AT LUNCH ON MARCH 27, KIM CONFIRMED THE SUBSTANCE OF BOTH TELCON AND LETTER, BUT STATED THAT REPLY FROM ROKG HAD BEEN HELD UP BECAUSE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAD CLAIMED JURISDICTION OVER THE CORRESPONDENCE. HE STATED THAT THIS DELAY WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT WHATSOEVER UPON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT, AND THAT HIS OFFICE STOOD READY TO ACCEPT FOR REGISTRATION AND FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM U.S. PUBLISHER.

3. NO SPECIFIC MENTION WILL BE MADE BY EMBASSY OF PUBLISHERS
WEEKLY ARTICLE SUMMARIZED IN REF (A). WHEN HE CALLED ABOUT TIMES
ARTICLE, KIM EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF FALLIBILITY OF PRESS
ACCOUNTS; EVEN IF WAGNER ARTICLE SHOULD COME TO HIS ATTENTION, IT
IS DOUBTFUL THAT OUR GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM WOULD BE DAMAGED.
WE HAVE TOLD KIM THAT UPON RECEIPT OF LETTER FROM ROKG CONFIRMING
NEW COPYRIGHT POLICY, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS WILL
MAKE PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING ARRANGEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH
COMMITMENT MADE DURING ALBERT VISIT.

HABIB

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Message Attributes

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